

## Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, November 7, 1904, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. THE LORRAINE, Fifth Avenue & Forty-fifth Street, New York, N. Y. Monday A.M. Nov. 7, 1904. My darling Alec:

I have nothing to say this morning, but as I noticed that Daisy's letters when postmarked 11 A.M. reached me the next day but one I am going to try writing you in the morning.

I was with Daisy yesterday afternoon and saw the Doctor who reported all well, and he says the same again this morning. If it were a question only of Daisy's recovery I would be inclined to go back to you tomorrow night, but she has been through a great deal of excitement with Alice Hill's engagement and her marriage is a question only of days, and I feel as if Daisy needed her Mother just now very much indeed. Both Daisy and Alice claim all the credit of Alice's engagement for Daisy, which is well enough if it turns out all right, but it seems to me such a terrible responsibility for any one to take, and perhaps Daisy will feel this more as the days grow nearer, so I want to be with her. I am sure my place is with her except for one thing, your health. I don't feel that I have been much more than a bother to you, you've certainly begged me to go away and not bother you often enough, but what becomes of you when I am not around? I am depending on your promise not to work so hard and to go to the laboratory every day. It's not a question merely of your pleasure in your kites, but the maintenance of your health and strength.

I am scared as to what we may have to pay in Doctor' bills. 2 Mamma says there is a story that Dr. McBurney charges \$20,000 for taking off a leg! well he didn't operate on Daisy but he was there twice one day and at least once another. Dr. Kennicutt too is no longer a practising physician, but a consulting one and I think that means a hundred dollars a visit. However we can afford anything short of twenty thousand, Mr. McInnis' accounts

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are very large, but we have not spent all of our July dividends yet. I was thinking we were going to come out very well indeed this year, anyway we can better afford this illness than at any other time. Our Am. Telephone and Telegraph dividends this year amounted to \$31,000.00 more than ever before except once when they were \$32,500.00. Anyway even if we have to go on our capital I want you to do all you want with your kites, don't consider money only consider health and that we are all together still, Father, Mother, children and grandchildren. Let's be happy and have all we want now .

Your loving, Mabel.